

EXHIBIT 1
DATE 3.8.07
SB 44

Senate Bill 44
House Fish, Wildlife, & Parks Committee
March 8, 2007
Presented by Land Tawney on behalf of the Private Land/Public Wildlife Council

Mr. Chairman and committee members, for the record my name is Land Tawney, representing the Private Land/Public Wildlife Council.

I am here to speak in support of Senate Bill 44. This bill would provide additional revenue for hunting access programs and game warden enforcement by adding antelope, mountain lion, and bison to the list of species included in the Supertag lottery program. The Private Land/Public Wildlife Council developed this proposal through consensus, recognizing the need for enhanced hunting access and enforcement, while noting how popular the Supertag program has been, both here in Montana as well as in other states. While some people voiced concerns during the public comment period and within the council that offering unlimited lottery chances might allow someone to "buy" the lottery, the 2006 Supertag lottery sales proved otherwise. Even though one individual bought 1,000 lottery chances, of the five people who drew the Supertags, four people bought only one chance each, and one person bought 20 chances. The purpose of the Supertag lottery is to generate revenue. The Council felt that by adding these species to the list, more hunters could participate in the lottery, while the additional revenue generated would allow more landowners to enroll in the hunting access programs and provide for increased law enforcement. On behalf of the Council, I ask that you support passage of Senate Bill 44.